

Exhibit A

The Honorable James L. Robart

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

JOHN DOE, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

DONALD TRUMP, et al.,

Defendants.

JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE OF
SEATTLE, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

DONALD TRUMP, et al.,

Defendants.

Civil Action No. 2:17-cv-00178JLR

Civil Action No. 2:17-cv-01707JLR

**DECLARATION OF KELLY A.
GAUGER IN SUPPORT OF
DEFENDANTS' NOTICE OF
COMPLIANCE WITH
PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION**

(RELATING TO BOTH CASES)

I, Kelly A. Gauger, for my Declaration pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, hereby state and depose as follows:

1. I am the Acting Director of the Admissions Office of the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM/A) of the United States Department of State. I have served as Acting Director of the Admissions Office since 2017, and I have served as Deputy Director of the Admissions Office since 2011. In my current position, I oversee

1 the Department of State's functions in the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program, conducted
 2 under the authority of the Refugee Act of 1980. I submit this Declaration in support of
 3 Defendants' Notice of Compliance with Preliminary Injunction. The statements made
 4 herein are based on my personal knowledge and information made available to me in the
 5 course of carrying out my duties and responsibilities as Acting Director of the PRM
 6 Office of Admissions.

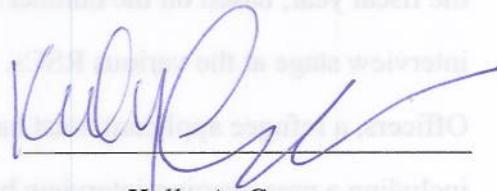
- 7 2. Shortly after noon on December 24, 2017, the Office of Admissions issued guidance to
 8 its implementing partners at the Resettlement Support Centers (RSCs) overseas
 9 regarding the District Court's issuance of a nationwide injunction so that the
 10 implementing partners could implement the injunction immediately upon opening of
 11 business after the federal holiday on December 25, 2017. The guidance instructed the
 12 RSCs to resume processing all follow-to-join refugees (V93s) and nationals of (and
 13 stateless persons who last habitually resided in) the 11 countries on the SAO list who
 14 have a bona fide relationship to a person or entity within the United States. Additional
 15 detailed guidance on the bona fide relationship requirement for processing of SAO
 16 nationalities was provided to the RSCs on December 28, 2017.
- 17 3. The pause in admission of follow-to-join refugees (V93s) was also implemented at the
 18 Department of State by the Bureau of Consular Affairs. I am aware that the Bureau of
 19 Consular Affairs advised consular posts on December 23, 2017 of the injunction and
 20 instructed them (1) to adjudicate, as normal, all cases held at posts due to the suspension
 21 on follow-to-join refugees (V93s) and (2) that the National Visa Center will resume
 22 transferring new V93 cases to posts per normal procedures. I am also aware that an
 23 additional State Department cable with guidance on follow-to-join refugees was sent to
 24 all diplomatic and consular posts on January 4, 2018.
- 25 4. PRM's Admissions Office works closely with the Refuge, Asylum, and International
 26 Operations Directorate (RAIO) of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)

1 at the Department of Homeland Security to schedule circuit rides of USCIS RAIO
 2 Officers to interview refugee applicants. The Admissions Office begins the process by
 3 submitting regular requests for circuit rides to RAIO, generally prior to each quarter of
 4 the fiscal year, based on the number of refugee applicants whose cases are at the
 5 interview stage at the various RSCs. In order to be ready for interview by USCIS
 6 Officers, a refugee applicant must have already gone through specific processing steps,
 7 including a prescreening interview by the RSCs of the refugee applicant and any
 8 accompanying family members and initiation of biographic security checks. Once a
 9 final schedule has been set for the circuit rides, the RSCs will schedule refugee
 10 applicants for interviews with the RAIO Officers based on which cases are ready for
 11 interview at those locations. Refugees are typically notified of their upcoming
 12 interviews once they have been scheduled.

- 13 5. On December 26, 2017, the Admissions Office asked the RSCs whether there were any
 14 SAO nationals that were ready for interview and who could be added to the second-
 15 quarter circuit ride schedule, in order to promptly comply with the Court's injunction.
 16 As a result of this request, additional interviews for SAO nationals have been added to
 17 the circuit rides to Indonesia and to Nauru and Manus.
- 18 6. In furtherance of its compliance with the Court's injunction, the State Department
 19 currently plans to add locations to its request for its third quarter circuit rides where
 20 large populations of SAO nationals are ready for interviews, namely, Iraq, Jordan,
 21 Turkey, and, potentially, Kenya. Scheduling circuit rides to these locations in the
 22 relatively near future is far preferable from a programmatic perspective over cancelling
 23 already-scheduled circuit rides to try to add new circuit rides to SAO locations.
 24 Cancelling scheduled circuit rides would waste resources, slow down the refugee
 25 pipeline overall (adversely affecting all refugee applicants), and cause undue hardship

1 for those whose interviews were already scheduled to take place, especially those who
2 have been notified of their upcoming interview.

3 I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on
4 January 18, 2018.



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7 Kelly A. Gauger
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